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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Intelligence Information Handling Committee
WASHINGTON, DC 20505

LOGGED

88 MAY 1984

IHC-MM-84-49
22 May 1984

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

COINS PMO

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FROM:

Chairman, IHC

SUBJECT:

Comments on Proposed Revision of Security Procedures
Within the COINS Network

REFERENCE:

COINS PMO Letter dated 14 March 1984, Subject: Proposed
Revision of Security Procedures Within the COINS Network

1. Per the referenced request, the IHC staff has reviewed the proposed changes to COINS security. Many of the issues identified in the referenced proposal were surfaced during the development of the "Preliminary CIRS Security Plan." These issues need to be resolved in both the COINS and DoDIIS networks. In order to insure interoperability of the two networks, the issues should be addressed through a joint effort with COINS and DoDIIS.

2. I would like to surface these common issues and identify the efforts that are being undertaken to resolve them at a future IHC meeting. I would appreciate your support in helping bring these issues and alternatives for resolution to the IHC. As part of the Ruth Davis computer security effort, the DDCI has stated as a policy that he wants "Individual Accountability" in automated systems and networks. While I agree with the COINS proposal to transition the log-on process to the user host rather than the current server host, we must be able to satisfy the DDCI's requirement for individual accountability.

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3. I have attached some specific comments on the referenced proposal and have named [redacted] as the IHC staff member to work this issue. I would appreciate your cooperation in efforts to resolve the common issues identified for COINS, DoDIIS, and the IHC-sponsored CIRS effort.

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Attachment No. 1: As Stated

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Distribution:

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Orig-Addressee- [redacted] COINS PMO, NSA-V2-Room 2W153

1-CIA (Clarus RTCE)

[redacted]

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1-AFIS (Col. George King)

1-FTD (Chuck Mangio)

1-DIA COINS Subsystem Manager,

1-CIA COINS Subsystem Manager,

1-NSA COINS Subsystem Manager,

1-NPIC COINS Subsystem Manager,

1-State Dept. COINS Subsystem Manager, Mrs. Eileen Vanderburgh

1-IHC-MM File

1-IHC Chrono

1-IHC Subject/Staulcup

1-ICS Registry

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DCI/ICS/IHC [redacted] (18May84)

Comments on New Security Proposal
for COINS Dated
14 March 1984

ATTACHMENT No. 1

Paragraph 1 - Objectives

- a. This objective is consistent with the DoD Network Security Plan (DNSIX) except that DNSIX provides for either user host log-on and authentication or service host log-on and authentication. Under Stage I of the CIRS security plan, NSA T-group has decided to retain its current log-on procedure in the WINDMILL host even though NSA understands that such a decision will require NSA personnel to maintain an extremely large authorization table. NSA considers this to be a decision for Stage I security only.

b. & c.

As more server hosts are made accessible to both the COINS and DoDIIS networks, it is anticipated that the maintenance of authorization and access control mechanisms on the server hosts will require a significant level of resources. We must find a way to incorporate the user host authentication while complying with the DDCI's requirement for individual accountability.

- d. This issue was surfaced in the development of the CIRS plan. Totally agree that COINS should be heading in this direction. The questions that remain are: (1) Does the DoDIIS network provide the same capability for the DoDIIS network? and (2) how is audit trailing accomplished between the two networks?

Paragraph 2 - Proposed Procedures

Concur with all that is proposed. The problems are (1) implementation, (2) transition, and (3) compatibility with DoDIIS network. Since DoDIIS DNSIX proposal closely matches this, suggest close coordination between COINS and DoDIIS for implementation. Possibly an executive agent should be named.

Paragraph 4 - Discussion of Advantages/Disadvantages

Concur with the way they are presented. It summarizes the problems that must be resolved in order to implement the COINS proposal. One additional concern under disadvantage number 3--Some server host may

continue to have "internal agency" users that are not "COINS users."
The audit data for the "internal agency" user must be maintained on
the user host.

OVERALL COMMENT ON SECOND ATTACHMENT TO COINS PROPOSAL

The opening sentence overstates what we think COINS is proposing. We view the COINS proposal as a shift in current responsibilities and objectives toward consolidation of audit data and a proposal for an approach for access and authentication. If COINS continues to support the terminal access system (TAS), it appears that COINS will have to provide all security features identified in the proposal for a user host.